



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

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2 November, 1982

*Not sent:
Telephone confirmation
no arrival.*

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CHIEF MARK RECALMA

Qualicum Band of Indians
Rural Route #3
Qualicum Beach
British Columbia
CANADA VOR2T0

Dear Chief Recalma:

You are invited to join other tribal leaders in a meeting with Mr. Anwar Barkat, Director of the Geneva, Switzerland based, World Council of Churches Program to Combat Racism. An afternoon conversation between Mr. Barkat and tribal representatives from Canada and the U.S. has been arranged by the Church Council of Greater Seattle and the National Congress of American Indians on Wednesday, 10 November, 1982 at 3:30pm. The meeting will take place in the offices of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, 4759 - 15th N.E. in Seattle, Washington.

The Program to Combat Racism was established by the WCC to provide public information concerning the problem of racism, and to provide financial support to populations suffering under the effects of racism. The WCC has become more active around the world in support of indigenous peoples' movements. Evidence of this activity includes their financial and technical support of Aborigines in Australia, Inuits in the circumpolar region and tribal populations in Zimbabwe in Southern Africa.

Mr. Barkat, a national of Pakistan, has begun to direct his Program to support Indian populations in North America. He has expressed a specific interest in the situation of indigenous peoples living in Northwest U.S. and Southwest Canada.


The meeting is expected to be a two-way conversation on the WCC Program to Combat Racism, and key issues concerning Indian peoples in this part of North America. The Conversation is also expected to center on the ways that the program Mr. Barkat represents might support Indian priorities. Some issues you may consider: Childwelfare, land rights, economic and social conditions, and issues of racism which may have arisen in Indian/white relations. You may of course raise any issue of a tribal, regional or international nature.

You should note that this meeting ^{may} ~~is likely to~~ have a significant influence on the agenda of the scheduled World Council of Churches General Assembly planned for

Vancouver, British Columbia next Summer. The Assembly meets once every ten years. The last meeting was in Africa in 1973. If the General Assembly includes agenda items concerning Indians in North America, this event could have a major impact on Indian Rights in Canada and the United States for the next decade. Church support of Indian Rights in North America could be enhanced through increased church financial support to Indian populations and Indian organizations. Your participation in this meeting ~~could~~^{may} create new opportunities for your people as well as Indian peoples throughout North America.

In addition to the 3:30pm meeting with Mr. Barkat, you are invited to attend a Luncheon at 12:00 noon on the same day at the University Christian Church, 4731 15th Avenue N.E. Cost for the luncheon will be \$3.75. The Luncheon may give you an opportunity to observe Mr. Barkat before the scheduled 3:30 meeting. Please confirm your participation in the luncheon and/or the 3:30 pm meeting by calling Rudy Ryser (206) 775-1007.

Yours sincerely,


JOSEPH DELACRUZ
President

Similar correspondence has been sent to:

- Councilman Russel Jim, Yakima Nation
- Vice Chairman Mel Tonasket, Colville Confederated Tribes
- ~~Marie/Starr~~
- Vice Chairperson Marrie Starr, Mukelshoot Tribe
- ✓ Chairman Russel Woodruff, Quileute Indian Tribe
- ✓ Chief Archie Putlas
- Chief Roger Jimmy, Kluskus Band
- ✓ Chief Mark Recalma, Qualicum Band
- Chief Wayne Christian, Spallmucheen Band of the Shuswap Nation

cc: NCAI file
Ralph Eluska, NCAI Vice President
Hollis Stabler, NCAI Treasurer

Enclsoure: WCC: Declaration of Barbados